Published: Dec. 4, 2016, *Kokomo Tribune* [Page: A4]

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Editorial: Division Road light must go

So, the bridge over U.S. 31 at Indiana 28 in Tipton County finally is finished. The public hearing process began in February 2015, and traffic was finally opened last month.

This is the end of a long, hard road that involved the closing of several decades-old family businesses at the intersection and months of single-lane restrictions resulting from the continuous construction. Travelers through the county couldn't be happier at the completion of this venture, and with good reason.

Now that this Indiana Department of Transportation project is complete, there is one piece left to take care of: Removing the stoplight at U.S. 31 and Division Road.

This stoplight has been a years-long headache for commuters passing through the county. It creates an unnecessary traffic hazard, especially for smaller vehicles put in harm's way by 18-wheelers speeding through, trying to beat the red lights. Between this intersection and the railroad tracks, an unnecessary bottleneck is often created.

The real reasoning behind this stoplight was the Tipton Industrial Park. The idea was to make U.S. 31 accessible to this new development. Years later, the influx of traffic hasn’t been forthcoming.

Often one or two vehicles will stop at the Division Road light, holding up all passing traffic on U.S. 31 for no reason. A stop sign at this juncture would serve just as well.

Call your state representative and tell them to make this happen once and for all. State Rep. Mike Karickhoff can be reached at 317-232-9815. State Rep. Tony Cook can be reached at 317-232-9678. And state Rep. Heath VanNatter can be reached at 317-234-9499.